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SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5463

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State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators A. Smith, Bailey, Erwin, Rinehart, Owen, Pelz, Bauer, Conner and Skratek).

Read first time March 6, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to site-based councils; adding new sections to  
2 chapter 28A.240 RCW; and creating new sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that in order to  
5 achieve the goal of reforming the public schools, each citizen of the  
6 state must accept the commitment of developing our most important  
7 resource, our children. The legislature further finds that part of  
8 building this commitment includes having persons in the field of  
9 education form partnerships with other persons in the community. To  
10 build a learning community, and develop this commitment, the  
11 legislature intends:

12 (1) That school boards of directors, school administrators,  
13 teachers, employee unions, and members of the community find new ways  
14 of working collaboratively, changing existing policies and agreements  
15 where appropriate;

1 (2) To encourage the creation of site-based councils, where  
2 parents, teachers, and citizens will join to make decisions for our  
3 schools; and

4 (3) To give school districts and schools broad discretion in  
5 establishing their site-based councils but consistent with the  
6 limitations under section 2 of this act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A site-based council may be  
8 established at one or more schools if the school district board of  
9 directors has adopted a policy authorizing site-based councils. The  
10 school district board of directors has final authority in establishing  
11 the parameters and areas of involvement accorded to school site-based  
12 councils.

13 (2) The policy adopted by a school district board of directors may  
14 include but is not limited to:

15 (a) Procedures for forming a site-based council and official  
16 recognition of the council by the district;

17 (b) Membership of the site-based council including the principal,  
18 certificated and classified staff, students in secondary schools,  
19 parents, and persons in the community. Existing organizations may be  
20 used to form the site-based council;

21 (c) Designation of activities with which site-based councils may  
22 become involved, such as: Student assessment, parent involvement, and  
23 developing community schools; and

24 (d) Delegation of authority to site-based councils to adopt their  
25 own bylaws and charter.

26 (3) School district boards of directors shall not delegate to site-  
27 based councils the authority to make personnel decisions regarding  
28 either instructional, administrative or classified staff.

1 (4) A school board shall only delegate authority over budget  
2 decisions to a site-based council if the authority is clearly defined  
3 in writing, if the authority is limited to a one-year period but may be  
4 renewed annually with the approval of the board, and if the authority  
5 of the site-based council is limited to decisions at the building  
6 level.

7 (5) Each school district board of directors deciding to adopt a  
8 policy authorizing site-based councils shall provide, by resolution,  
9 plans for attendance policies that are consistent with the requirements  
10 of any desegregation plan in order to promote stability for schools  
11 with site-based councils.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If modifications to existing local  
13 bargaining agreements are necessary to implement school site-based  
14 councils, those modifications shall be clearly stated in the written  
15 agreement between the school district board of directors and the  
16 exclusive bargaining representative for district certificated  
17 instructional staff.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Schools with site-based councils may  
19 receive funds to provide resources for restructuring their educational  
20 programs. The superintendent of public instruction shall allocate  
21 funds, as are appropriated for this purpose, to school districts to  
22 distribute to the schools with site-based councils.

23 (2) School districts shall submit reports about the plans and use  
24 of funds to the superintendent of public instruction. The  
25 superintendent of public instruction may transmit information to other  
26 schools and school districts through the state clearinghouse for  
27 educational information and assistance.

1           (3) The superintendent of public instruction may provide technical  
2 assistance under this section to any school or school district  
3 establishing or using a site-based council.

4           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 5.**           Sections 2 through 4 of this act are  
5 each added to chapter 28A.240 RCW.

6           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 6.**           If specific funding for the purposes of  
7 this act, referencing this act by bill number, is not provided by June  
8 30, 1991, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act shall be null and  
9 void.